

A Case of Spontaneously Necrotized Hepatocellular Carcinoma Confirmed with Lobectomy of Liver

Sang Chul Lee, M.D., Jae Bock Chung, M.D., Young Nyun Park, M.D.*,
Sang Hoon Ahn, M.D., Seung Woo Park, M.D., Chae Yoon Chun, M.D.,
Young Myoung Moon, M.D., Jin Kyung Kang, M.D. and In Suh Park, M.D.

Departments of Internal Medicine and Pathology, Yonsei University College of Medicine, Seoul, Korea*

Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma is extremely rare. Up to date, only 17 cases of hepatocellular carcinoma with spontaneous regression were reported in the English literature and there is 1 case of it in Korea. The mechanism of spontaneous regression has been a puzzle. Here, we describes a 70-year-old man with chronic hepatitis in whom spontaneous necrosis of hepatocellular carcinoma occurred and the possibility of spontaneous regression was suggested. He had right upper quadrant pain and computed tomography disclosed a 4 cm-sized hypodense mass at left lobe of the liver. Fine needle aspiration biopsy revealed almost total necrosis with a few scattered naked nuclei showing nuclear hyperchromasia and prominent nucleoli, which was highly suggestive of malignancy. When surgically resected, the specimen showed thick trabecular pattern of tumor with extensive necrotic change, which was a histological appearance of hepatocellular carcinoma. After surgery, the patient has recovered well. (**Kor J Gastroenterol 2000;36:562 - 566**)

Key Words: Hepatocellular carcinoma, Spontaneous necrosis

가

ethanol

B

가

C , aflatoxin B1

.12 3-17 1 가 .18

: 2000 6 8 , : 2000 8 21 가,

: , 120-749, 134 ,

가

Tel: (02) 361-5410, Fax: (02) 393-6884

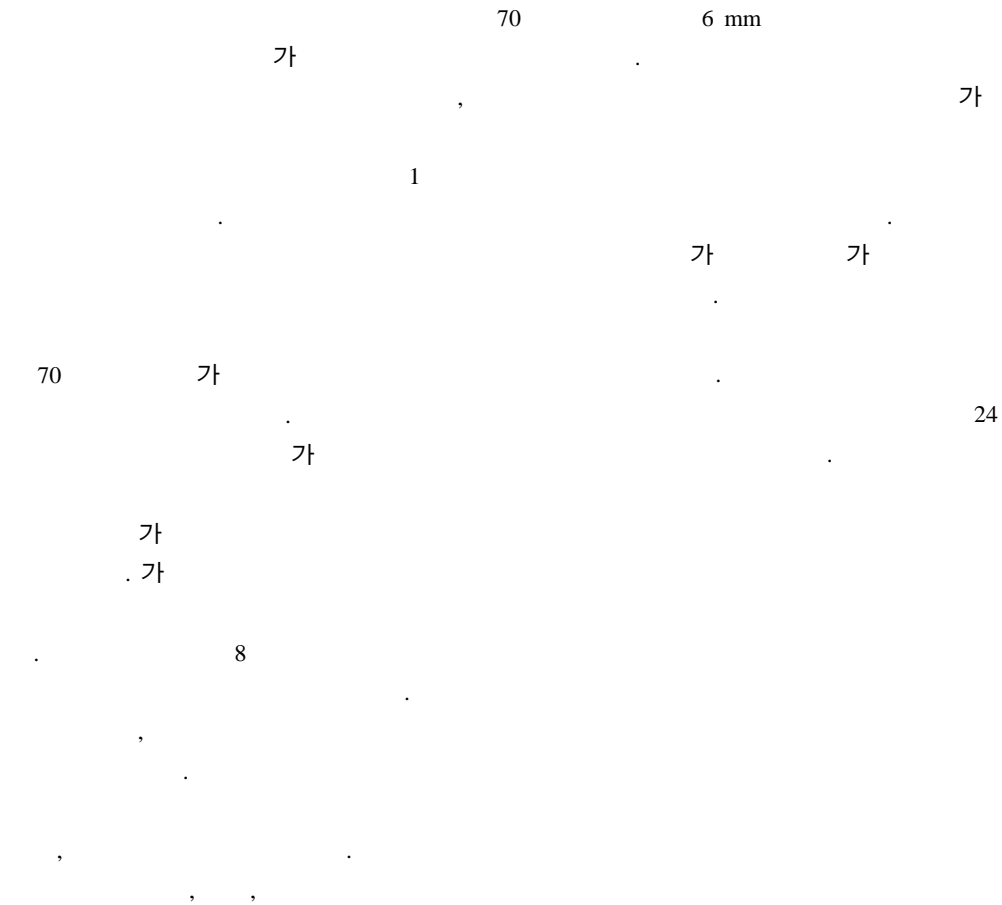


Fig. 1. Abdominal US at the time of diagnosis. It shows a hyperechoic lesion with hypoechoic surrounding rim in the left medial lobe (3 × 3 cm).

1.1 mg/dL,
alkaline phosphatase 81 IU/L(38-115),
AST 21 IU/L, ALT 20 IU/L,
12.9 , AFP 1.47 IU/L . HBsAg,
anti-HBs, anti-HCV anti-HBc
가 가
3 × 3 cm 가
(Fig. 1) 8
가
4 cm 가 (Fig.
2) 7 8 1 cm 가

Fig. 2. CT scan at the time of diagnosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. There was a 4 cm sized low density mass (arrow) on the left lobe of liver and had well marginated capsule.

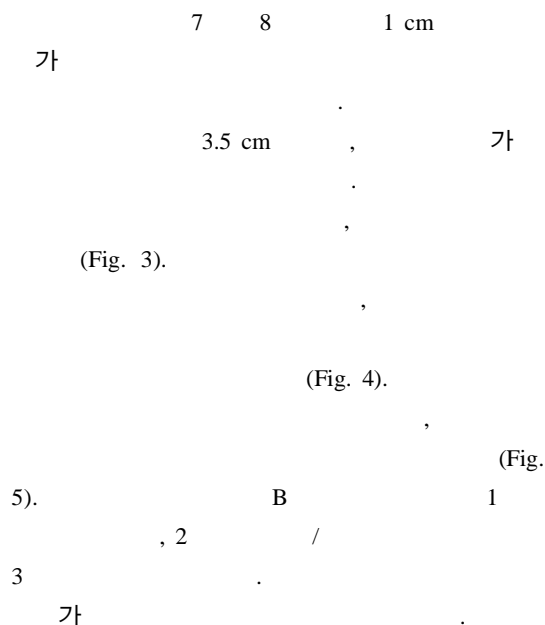


Fig. 3. Gross feature of the tumor. It reveals a well circumscribed, encapsulated and round mass with whitish yellow & necrotic cut surface.

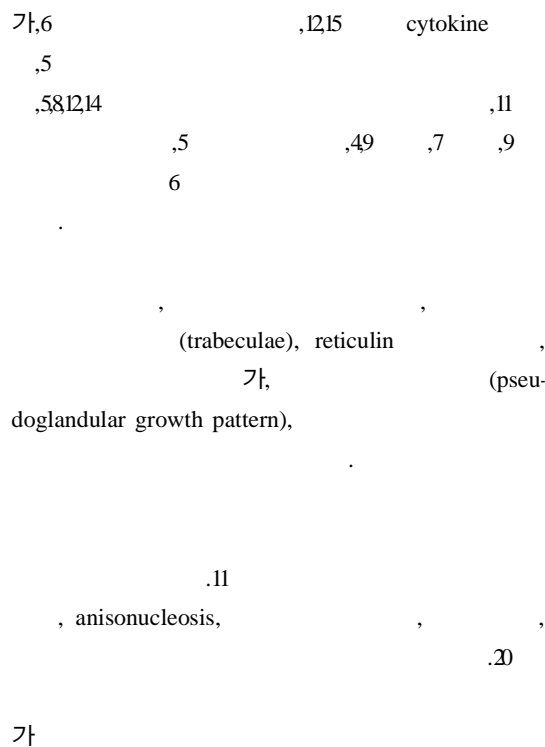


Fig. 4. Microscopic feature of the tumor. It shows thick trabecular pattern of the tumor with extensive necrotic change (H&E stain, $\times 200$).

Fig. 5. Microscopic feature of feeding artery. The lumen of the feeding artery shows partial occlusion (Elastic-VanGieson's stain, $\times 100$).

2. Iwama S, Ohnishi K, Nakajima Y, et al. A clinical study of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) in relation to hepatitis B seromarkers: implications of non-A, non-B hepatitis (NANB). *Hepatology* 1982;2:117.
3. Kaczynski J, Hansson G, Remotti H, Wallerstedt S. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Hepatology* 1998;32:147-150.
4. Markovic S, Ferlan-Marolt V, Hlebanja Z. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Am J Gastroenterol* 1996;91:392-393.
5. Grossmann M, Hoermann R, Weiss M, et al. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Am J Gastroenterol* 1995;90:1500-1503.
6. Suzuki M, Okazaki N, Yoshino M, Yoshida T. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma: a case report. *Hepatogastroenterology* 1989;36:160-163.
7. Sato Y, Fujiwara K, Nakagawa S, et al. A case of spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma with bone metastasis. *Cancer* 1985;56:667-671.
8. Gottfried EB, Steller R, Paronetto F, Lieber CS. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Gastroenterology* 1982;82:770-774.
9. Lam KC, Ho JC, Yeung RT. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma: a case study. *Cancer* 1982;50:332-336.
10. Tarav PG. Spontaneous necrosis of liver cancer: one more possible cause. *Am J Gastroenterol* 1996;1:1872-1873.
11. Imaoka S, Sasaki I, Masutani S, et al. Necrosis of hepatocellular carcinoma caused by spontaneously arising arterial thrombus. *Hepatogastroenterology* 1994;41:359-362.
12. Gaffey MJ, Joyce JP, Carlson GC, Esteban JM. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Cancer* 1990;65:2779-2783.
13. Ozeki Y, Matsubara N, Tateyana K, Kokubo M, Shimoji H, Katayama M. Spontaneous complete necrosis of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Am J Gastroenterol* 1996;91:391-392.
14. McCaughan GW, Bilous MJ, Gallagher ND. Long-term survival with tumor regression in androgen-induced liver tumors. *Cancer* 1985;56:2622-2626.
15. Tocci G, Conte A, Guarascio P, Visco G. Spontaneous remission of hepatocellular carcinoma after massive gastrointestinal haemorrhage. *BMJ* 1990;300:641-642.
16. Chien RN, Chen TJ, Liaw YF. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma. *Am J Gastroenterol* 1992;87:903-905.
17. Halteren HK, Salemans JM, Peters H, Vreugdenhil G, Driessen WM. Spontaneous regression of hepatocellular carcinoma. *J Hepatol* 1997;27:211-215.
18. , , , , . 1 . 1999;33: 580-586.
19. Everson TC, Cole WH. Spontaneous regression of cancer. 1st ed. Philadelphia: WB Saunders, 1966.
20. International Working Party. Terminology of nodular hepatocellular lesions. *Hepatology* 1995;22: 983-993.